1: Cunningham G-3 (1846-47) 1854 AJ4 W. Tibetans AJ4

144 147 Mongolian origin. Their superiority in bodily strength is perhaps owing partly to the bracing climate of their elevated country, and partly to the former infusion of Hindu blood. I have had practical proof of this superiority amongst the Botis of Láhul, Kanáwar, and Spiti. In 1846 the short Láhuli women carried with the greatest ease, day after day, the roof of my tent, which the taller and finer-looking men of Kullu and Simla refused on account of its weight. Again in 1847 the Kanáwari and Spiti women carried loads at which the pampered Simla coolis had grumbled. I have repeatedly seen a box weighing sixty pounds carried by girls of sixteen and eighteen years of age over the high passes of Kanáwar.

● 141 Regarding their alleged superiority of stature I am rather sceptical. But as no detailed accounts of the average heights of the different Mongolian races are accessible to me, I can only quote the statement of Pallas, that the Kalmaks are "generally of a moderate height," and "rather small than large." The following table shows the stature of the Boti race in different parts of Ladák and Balti, according to the average measurements of from five to seven persons of each sex in many different villages, always including the tallest and shortest men and women that could be found.

TABLE OF STATURE.

	Districts.	Men.			Women.			Landlords.		
		Tallest.	Shortest.	Average	Tallest.	Shortest.	Average.	Tallest.	Shortest.	Average
		ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.
Buddhists.	Rukchu	5 1·5	5 0·0	5 0·9	5 0·0	4 1·0	4 8·2	5 3·0	5 1·0	5 2·5
	Spiti	5 6·5	5 0·0	5 2·4	5 2·5	4 1·0	4 8·9	5 7·5	5 4·0	5 5·7
	Nubra	5 7·0	5 4·0	5 2·7	4 7·0	4 0·0	4 9·8			
	Ladák	5 5·0	4 10·0	5 1·4	5 4·0	4 1·0	4 10·1	5 9·0	5 2·0	5 5·3
	Average			5 1·8			4 9·2			5 4·5

1: Cunningham G-3 (1846-47) 1854 AJ4 W. Tibetans AJ4

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	Districts.	Men.			Women.			Landlords.		
		Tallest.	Shortest.	Average	Tallest.	Shortest.	Average.	Tallest.	Shortest.	Average
		ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.
Musalmáns.	Chhorbad	5 8·0	4 8·0	5 0·9	5 0·0	4 4·0	4 9·3			
	Khapolor	5 7·0	4 6·0	5 0·7	5 2·0	4 2·0	4 9·1			
	Keris	5 5·0	5 0·0	5 2·9	4 11·0	4 8·0	4 10·6			
	Parguta	5 9·0	4 10·0	5 3·5	5 4·0	4 4·0	4 8·5			
	Skardo	5 11·0	4 9·0	5 2·3	5 0·0	4 6·0	4 9·7			
	Shigar	5 5·0	4 4·0	5 0·4	4 11·0	4 8·0	4 9·4			
	Rongdo	5 7·0	4 9·0	5 2·1	5 0·0	4 7·0	4 9·7			
	Average			5 1·8			4 9·5			
	Average of Botis			5 1·8			4 9·35			
Hindu Botis.	Upper Kanáwar	5 6·0	4 11·0	5 1·9	5 1·5	4 4·5	4 9·0	5 8·0	5 4·0	5 5·9
	Middle Kanáwar	5 6·0	4 9·0	5 2·0	5 5·0	4 9·0	4 11·1	5 8·0	5 0·0	5 5·3
	Lower Kanáwar	5 9·2	4 11·0	5 4·1	5 6·0	4 10·0	5 1·2	5 7·0	5 7·0	5 7·0
	Average			5 2·0			4 9·7			5 6·1

144

In this table the effect of the admixture of Hindu blood will be seen at once in the superior stature of the people of Lower Kanáwar.* Those of Middle Kanáwar also occasionally intermarry with the Hindus; for I found a woman, named Charanu, a native of Saráhan, near Rampur, who was wedded to two husbands in the village of Kala, opposite Labrang, in Middle Kanáwar. In fact the people of Kanáwar generally are called Kanets, a name which is said to designate a people of mixed race. The proper name of the country is therefore most probably *Karanáwara*, the country of *Karanas*, or people of mixed race, a name usually applied to the offspring of a degraded Khsatriya and a Khsatriya

[103]

* The Botis are shorter than the Kirghiz of Wakhan and Pamer who were measured by Wood.—Oxus, pp. 338—372.

	Tallest.	Shortest.	Average.
Men	5 5·5 ...	5 2·0 ...	5 3·2
Do.	5 7·2 ...	5 1·7 ...	5 4·5
		Mean ...	5 3·85

1: Cunningham G-3 (1846-47) 1854 AJ4 W. Tibetans AJ4

144 female. The same name is applied by Marco Polo to
[103] another mixture of the same races—Tartars and Indians. There are indeed Kanets in other parts of the Himálayas, but only in those districts which border upon Ladák; as in Bisahar, Kullu, Chamba, and Kashtwar.

141 The average stature of the Botis of Ladák appears to
142 me to be very short indeed when compared with that of their Hindu and Chinese neighbours; but that this is chiefly, if not wholly, the effect of poor food and of privation of all kinds, is proved by the average stature of the landlords, or head men, of the different villages. These never carry burdens on their backs, are better fed, and better clothed; and (when they travel) usually ride from one place to another, instead of toiling up and down the steep and rugged passes of their native mountains. This shows the beneficial effect of wholesome food and of comparative comfort even in the most rigorous climate.

141 The stature of the women seems to be particularly low. This is not, however, shown in the averages, which exhibit a difference of only four inches between the men and the women. But the number of very short women is much greater than that of very short men. In Ladák I saw only six men that were under five feet in height; of whom two were four feet eleven inches; three were four feet ten inches; and one was only four feet nine inches. Amongst the women of Ladák, however, I saw no less than ten that were under four feet five in height. Of these, one was four feet four and a half; two were four feet four; one was four feet three; two were four feet two; one of forty years of age was four feet one and a half; and three were only four feet one inch in height. I am unable to say positively what may be the cause of

L: Cunningham G-3 (1846-47) 1854 AJ4 W. Tibetans AJ4

the great number of very short women; but I am inclined to attribute it partly to the system of polyandry which prevails among them. This system is, I believe, almost universal amongst the mixed race of Kanetis throughout Kanawar and the other Kaneti districts, but as far as I could learn it is not so prevalent amongst the pure Botis of Ladák. The custom has therefore most probably been borrowed from the polyandrous Hindu race of Himálayan Kshatriyas, amongst whom it has been preserved for at least twenty-five centuries, since the Pandavan brothers jointly espoused the princess Draupadi.

The great differences observable in the stature of the Musalmán races of Shigar on the north and of Skardo on the south, must no doubt be attributed to the mixture of other races; of the diminutive Kirghiz of Pamer with the first, and of the tall Kashmìri with the second. The people of Shigar were once, I believe, pure Kirghiz.

In general the Botis have short, squat, stout figures, with broad, flat, ugly faces; but occasionally amongst the better classes I have seen both men and women who were well made and well featured, and with a fine rosy colour in their cheeks. Indeed, I have even seen a few of the women that were really handsome, with good regular features and fine figures. But in general they are all, both men and women, not only ugly but hideous, and more especially the old women. Dr. Gerard's amusing description of these people is too graphic to be omitted.* "In figure they are stout, waddling, and dumpy; * * * in face they are not beautiful, even when young; when past their climacteric, very unseemly; and when old, a picture of horrid ugliness.

* Asiatic Researches, XVIII. p. 249.

1;Cunningham G-3 (1846-47) 1854 AJ4 W. Tibetans AJ4

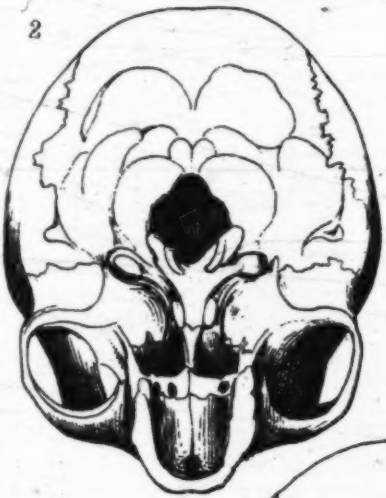
•141

Nomadic BOTI of LADAK, Hánle

1

1/3rd Nat: Size:

2



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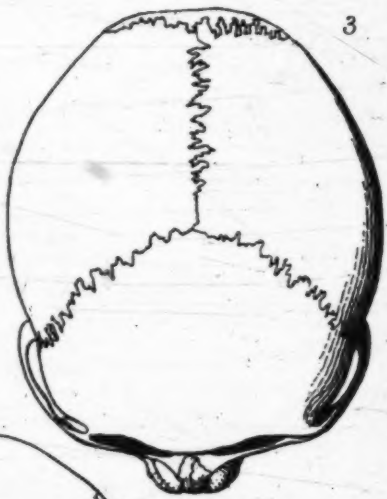


4

Fac: Ang: 80°

Cran: Cap: 74·5 c°in.

Pl 296a

1;Cunningham G-3 (1846-47) 1854 AJ4 W. Tibetans AJ4

142 part to any natural tendency to curl, but solely to the tangled and thickly agglomerated matting of the hair, consequent upon its never having been combed or washed from first to second childhood.

141 In the accompanying plates* I have exhibited four different views of two Botian skulls which I procured at Hanlé and at Lé. The first is a specimen of the nomadic dwellers in tents, the second of the settled inhabitants of houses. There is a considerable difference in the shapes of these two skulls, but I believe that the Lé specimen is a departure from the usual type; its elongated form being most probably due to some malformation at the time of birth. This is I think fully proved by the continuation of the longitudinal suture from the top of the cranium down to the nose. As a second skull from Lé, which I have in my possession, resembles very closely that of the nomadic Boti of Hanlé, this cranium may be taken as a very good specimen of the Ladáki type of Boti.

The characteristics of this type are almost the same as those of the Mongolian. The more striking are a round and globular shape of cranium, and a great lateral extension of the zygomatic arches, coupled with a narrow forehead, which gives what Prichard has called a pyramidal form to the front view of the skull; that is, if lines be drawn from the outside of the cheek-bones touching the temples, they will meet in a point at a short distance above the head. This form is quite different from that of the European skull, in which the width of the forehead is often greater (but I believe
144 never less) than that of the cheek-bones. In other respects these Boti skulls appear to resemble very closely

* Plates X. and XI.

I: Cunningham G-3 (1846-47) 1854 AJ4 W. Tibetans AJ4

141

Settled BOTI of LADAK, Lé.

1/3rd Nat. Size.

3

4

Cran. Cap. 72.7

297a

1: Cunningham G-3 (1846-47) 1854 AJ4 W. Tibetans AJ4

144 those of the civilized Chinese. Indeed, if the statements of their own historians* are to be credited, that the Chinese originally came from the Shensi forests of the frontiers of Tibet, we can scarcely come to any other conclusion than that they were originally of the same stock as the people of Tibet, or in other words, that they were actually Botis. The Mongolian origin of the Chinese and of the Botis is, I believe, universally admitted; and I would attribute the differences between them and the present nomadic Mongols partly to the early civilization of the Botian race, and partly to the admixture of Hindu blood. The form of the skulls in my possession, and more particularly of the frontal bone, also shows a considerable affinity to the Hindu race. In corroboration of this view, I am happy to quote the opinion of M. D'Halley,† who says, "Peut-être que les Bhots sont des Hindus modifiés par leur mélange avec des Mongols."

141 The following table exhibits the facial angle, the cranial capacity, and the present weight of the four Botian skulls, three of which are in my possession.

Skulls.	Facial angle.	Cranial capacity.	Weight.
		Cubic in.	lb. oz.
No. 1 from Hanlé	80°	74·5	1 4·44
2 „ Lé	68°	72·7	1 6·44
3 „ Lé	73°	70·0	1 7·46
4 „ Balti	75°	72·0	1 2·40
	74°	72·3	1 5·18

The facial angle in these specimens ranges from 68°

* Prichard, Natural History of Man, p. 227.

† Des Races Humaines, p. 128, note.

1; Cunningham G-3 (1846-47) 1854 AJ4 W. Tibetans AJ4

to 80°; but as there is good reason for supposing that the skull which yields the lower number has been a malformation, I would deduce the mean facial angle from the other three skulls, which agree with each other in general appearance. This would fix the facial angle of the Botis at 76°, which is somewhat less than the European average of 80°, but at the same time it is a considerable improvement upon the Mongolian and Kalmuk average of 70°. That some individuals may occasionally approach the Caucasian standard, we have an example in the cranium of the nomadic Boti of Hanlé, which has a facial angle of 80°.

The amount of the cranial capacity is another distinguishing characteristic of different races. In this respect the Botis are remarkably deficient, but perhaps not more so than might be expected from the small size of the race generally. Taking the average height of Europeans at five feet and a half, and the average capacity of their skulls at eighty-eight cubic inches, then the cranial capacity of a Boti five feet in height should be ten-elevenths of the other, or eighty cubic inches. But the average of the three Botian skulls in my possession falls much below this number; that of the most capacious being only seventy-four cubic inches and a half.

The three Botian skulls now described agree very closely, in their respective weights, with that of a Chinese, recorded by Prichard, which weighed 1 lb. 7½ oz. Had the teeth been perfect, the agreement would have been still more close: for No. 1 has but half a tooth; No. 2 has only three teeth, while No. 3 has twelve teeth.

The true average would therefore most probably range

1: Cunningham G-3 (1846-47) 1854 AJ4 W. Tibetans AJ4

141 from 1 lb. 7 oz. to 1 lb. 8 oz. These skulls are all thin and smooth, and of compact texture, excepting only the jaws, which appear to me to be rather massive for the size of the head.

Of the configuration of the Boti skeleton, I can give but little positive information. The shoulders are square and broad, and the trunk is rather long in proportion to the stature. I obtained the pelvis* belonging to No. 1 cranium, which has a longitudinal axis of 3·75 inches, and a transverse axis of 3·6 inches, with a form inclining to the square. According to Professor Weber, as quoted by Prichard, this shape prevails generally amongst people who resemble the Mongolians.

144 The Botian tribe would, therefore, seem to possess the same physical characteristics, both in outward form and in their bony structure, as those which distinguish the Mongolian race generally, with only some slight modifications, which are most probably due to their connection and occasional mixture with the Caucasian race of India.

000 For the sake of comparison I have given sketches of two Kashmirian skulls,† one male and one female, which I procured in the city of Kashmir. The differences are very striking; but more particularly the oval shape of the skull, the flattened form of the zygomatic arches, and the narrowness of the jaws; all of which peculiarities are characteristic of the Caucasian race. The measurements of my Kashmiri skulls are as follows:—

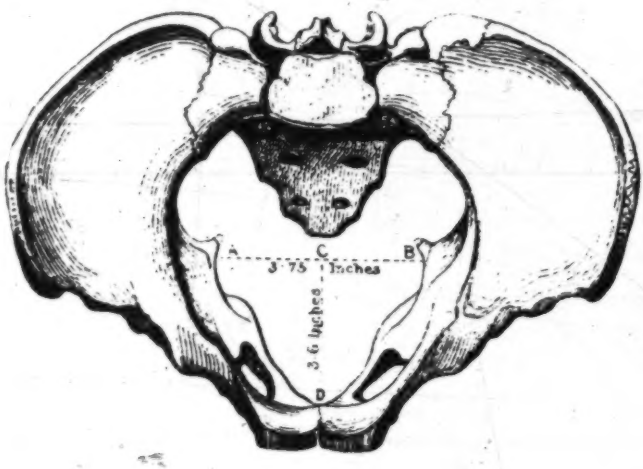
* See Plate XII. † Plates XIII. and XIV.

1: Cunningham G-3 (1846-47) 1854 AJ4 W. Tibetans AJ4

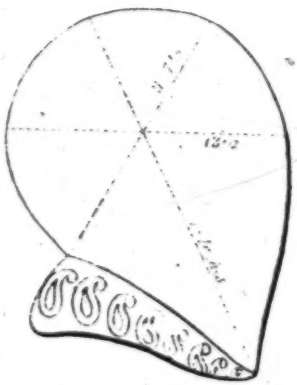
141

Plate XII

Pelvis from Hánlé



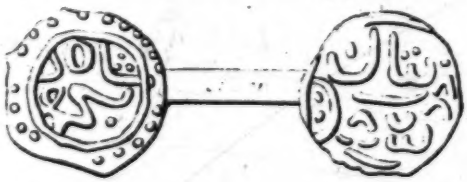
292



Cap of the GVALPO of Ladak

301

The JAO of Ladak (6)



A Cunningham del

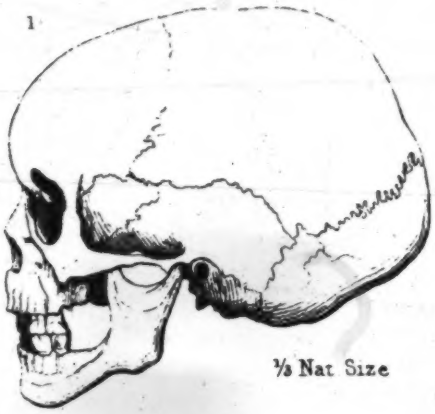
p. 300 a

1: Cunningham G-3 (1846-47) 1854 AJ4 W. Tibetans AJ4

141

Female KASA of KASHMIR City

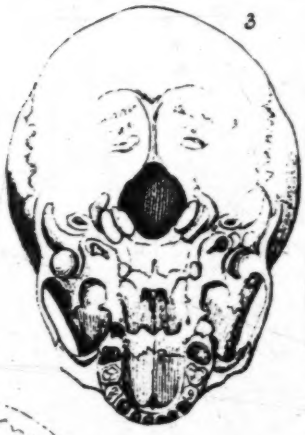
1



⅓ Nat Size

2

3



4

Fac Ang 85°

Cran Cap: c^{a} in.

A Cunningham del

Day & Son Lith^{rs} to The Queen

p. 300b

1: Cunningham G-3 (1846-47) 1854 AJ4 W. Tibetans AJ4

●141

	Facial angle.	Cranial capacity.	Weight.
			lb. oz.
Male	73·5°	97	1 14·4*
		Cubic in.	
1st Female	85°	68	1 5·2
2nd Female	84°	67·5	
Average Female	84·5°	67·75	

LONGEVITY.

165 One of the most interesting subjects of inquiry which I pursued daily in Ladák was the extreme ages attained by the oldest people in all the villages in my route. To test the value of the information thus collected, I have added to the following table the number of persons per cent. of each sex who reach the respective ages of seventy, eighty, and ninety years throughout the whole of Great Britain. The table requires little explanation. The first and second columns give the actual number of males and females in the several villages where the ages of the people were ascertained. It is necessary that this should be stated, as it will at once account for the great per-centage of females in Rukchu who had passed the patriarchal age of seventy. The number is 2·45 per cent., or three out of 122. But the general average is still much below that of Britain; and I feel satisfied that the whole table gives a very fair approximation to the truth. I have added a column showing the duration of life in Balti and the small Musalman states on the

* This very large skull wants the lower jaw, and has only three teeth in the upper jaw; but the bone of the skull averages about one quarter of an inch in thickness. The whole weight, if complete, would be nearly 2½ lb.

13: Heber and Heber D-3 (1914-25) 1926 AJ4 W. Tibetans AJ4

●142 unaccustomed to washing, but well-acquainted with smoky
291 fires. Their long coats reach just below the knees, and are cut without shape or form of any kind. The fronts of these over-lap, and in lieu of buttons they wear a long, broad kammerband round their waists to keep their coats closed. On the lapels of these garments are broad strips of nicely-coloured flannel. The Changpas are shod with long boots reaching up to the knees, red in colour and with very thick
342 soles. Their tents, to European eyes, seem to be just about as ridiculous as tents can be; but then the Changpa does not go into them for protection from the rain as we do, but
[132] from the wind. Although in these high uplands there is plenty of rain, for it seemed to be pouring or snowing most of the time we were up there, he considers that the wind is the worse of two evils, for in a high wind you cannot make a fire to boil your tea. He therefore makes his tent so that the wind shall find it difficult to get in, while the smoke of the fire inside shall have an easy egress. To do this he leaves the top of his canvas home absolutely open to the sky. His shelter consists merely of two sides of black cloth made from yak's hair, of which the upper two corners only are fastened together and fixed on the top of upright poles whilst the lower corners are fastened to the ground. These tents are so low that, if the Changpa wants to see what his sheep are doing, he has only to stand up and put his head and shoulders out of his "chimney" to view the landscape, when he resembles nothing more closely than a released jack-in-the-box. Inside their tents these pastoral people sleep, cook their meals, and keep their goods and chattels, while grazing around are their horses, yaks, and sheep—a simple life indeed.

133 Pobrang itself is a very pretty place, consisting of a long stretch of grass lying among sandy mountains with the usual
226 snow-covered peaks behind. Through it there run many delightful rivulets in which the snow-trout are so abundant that in quite a short space of time we pulled out about sixty,